

Application No. 10/722,858
Amendment Dated August 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 26, 2004

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 26, 2004, claims 1-6 were examined with the result that all claims were rejected. In response, Applicant has canceled claim 2 and filed a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to claims 1 and 3-6. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of this application is requested.

Before turning to the rejection of the claims, Applicant notes that the Examiner also objected to the first sentence of the specification because of the blank line contained therein. Obviously, at the time of filing this CIP application, Applicant did not know of the patent number to be assigned to the parent application. As the parent application has now issued on January 27, 2004, Applicant has herein amended the specification to insert that the parent application is U.S. Patent 6,683,219. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to the specification.

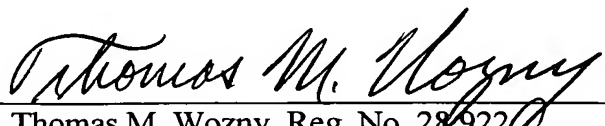
In the Office Action, claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 18 of prior U.S. Patent 6,683,219. In response, Applicant has canceled claim 2 via the present Amendment. Thus, Applicant believes this rejection should now be withdrawn by the Examiner.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 3-6 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 18 of U.S. Patent 6,683,219. In response, Applicant encloses a Terminal Disclaimer for obviating the obviousness type double patenting rejection. In view of the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer, Applicant believes claims 1 and 3-6 are now allowable.

An effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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